## U.S. National Phase of PCT/EP2003/009438

## **REMARKS**

This amendment is made to better conform the specification and the claims to U.S. claim format.

A Replacement Sheet of drawings is being submitted herewith which includes English language identifiers.

Applicant reserves all rights to the original claimed subject matter. None of the amendments are intended to narrow the scope of any of the original claims. Applicant reserves all rights to the original claimed subject matter.

Examination of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

**BACON & THOMAS, PLLC** 

Date: Feb. 28, 2005

Felix 1. DAMbrosio
Attorney for Applicant

Registration Number 25,721

Customer Number \*23364\* BACON & THOMAS, PLLC

625 Slaters Lane, Fourth Floor Alexandria, Virginia 22314 Telephone: (703) 683-0500

Facsimile: (703) 683-1080

S:\Producer\fjd\CLIENTS\Endress+Hauser Holding GmbH\WITT3004-CD0173\Prelim Amend.wpd

## U.S. National Phase of PCT/EP2003/009438

## **Abstract**

The invention relates to a A method for monitoring the functioning of sensors for the measurement and monitoring of state parameters of liquids or gases, especially in the field of process measurement technology, for example of electrochemical, electrophysical or optical sensors, wherein the sensor is placed into a test state at time intervals and test parameters are registered, or these test parameters are registered at time intervals in the course of the measured value registration[[,]] wherein the \_\_\_\_ The registered parameters are stored and a backwards-looking, chronological development of the stored test parameters is evaluated for performing the functional monitoring and the development of sensor behavior to be expected in the future is predicted therefrom and information concerning the duration of the remaining, disturbance-free operation of the sensor is obtained.

[[(Fig. 2)]]